

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A system, comprising:
2 a cluster;
3 a first agent process at the cluster;
4 a second agent process at the cluster;
5 a first server process with which the first agent process is registered; and
6 a second server process with which the second agent process is registered.

- 1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein the cluster is a first cluster, wherein the first
2 server process executes at a second cluster, and wherein the second server process
3 executes at a third cluster.

- 1 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the first server process executes at a first
2 cluster and the second server process executes at a second cluster, and wherein the first
3 cluster and the second cluster comprise a server system.

- 1 4. The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first server process and
2 the second server process execute at a host system.

- 1 5. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 persistent data at the cluster storing configuration and state information for one or
3 more storage devices accessed by the cluster.

- 1 6. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for, when the first server process and first agent process fail while executing
3 a task, executing the task with the second server process and second agent process.

1 7. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for, when the first server process and first agent process fail while executing
3 a first task, continuing to execute a second task with the second server process and second
4 agent process.

1 8. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for detecting a first server and a second server;
3 means for registering the first agent process with the first server process at the
4 first server;
5 means for registering the second agent process with the second server process at
6 the second server;
7 means for, when a task is to be executed by the first server process, executing the
8 task with the first agent process; and
9 means for, when the task is to be executed by the second server process, executing
10 the task with the second agent process.

1 9. The system of claim 1, wherein the first agent process is launched at the
2 cluster and further comprising:
3 under control of the first agent process,
4 (i) means for retrieving stored configuration and state information; and
5 (ii) means for transmitting the retrieved configuration and state information
6 to the first server process.

1 10. The system of claim 1, wherein the first agent process is launched at the
2 cluster and further comprising:
3 means for receiving at least one of changed configuration information and changed
4 state information for the cluster;

1 means for storing the at least one of changed configuration information and state
2 information as persistent data at the cluster; and
3 under control of the first agent process,
4 (i) means for retrieving the stored at least one of changed configuration
5 information and state information; and
6 (ii) means for transmitting the retrieved at least one of changed
7 configuration information and state information to the first server process.

1 11. The system of claim 1, wherein the first agent process is launched if a first
2 server is configured and wherein the second agent process is launched if a second server is
3 configured.

1 12. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 under control of the first agent process,
3 means for receiving a request to execute the task from the first server
4 process;
5 means for storing identification for the first agent process in persistent data;
6 means for invoking a driver process for executing the task;
7 means for receiving task completion status from the driver process; and
8 means for forwarding the task completion status to the first server process.

1 13. A method for task processing and monitoring of configuration and state
2 information, comprising:
3 detecting a first server and a second server;
4 registering a first agent process with a first server process at the first server;
5 registering a second agent process with a second server process at the second
6 server;

1 when a task is to be executed by the first server process, executing the task with
2 the first agent process; and
3 when the task is to be executed by the second server process, executing the task
4 with the second agent process.

1 14. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
2 storing configuration and state information for one or more storage devices
3 accessed by a cluster as persistent data at the cluster.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the first agent process is launched at the
2 cluster and further comprising:
3 under control of the first agent process,
4 (i) retrieving the stored configuration and state information; and
5 (ii) transmitting the retrieved configuration and state information to the
6 first server process.

1 16. The method of claim 13, wherein the second agent process is launched at
2 the cluster and further comprising:
3 under control of the second agent process,
4 (i) retrieving the stored configuration and state information; and
5 (ii) transmitting the retrieved configuration and state information to the
6 second server process.

1 17. The method of claim 13, wherein the first agent process is launched at the
2 cluster and further comprising:
3 receiving at least one of changed configuration information and changed state
4 information for the cluster;

1 storing the at least one of changed configuration information and state information
2 as persistent data at the cluster; and
3 under control of the first agent process,
4 (i) retrieving the stored at least one of changed configuration information
5 and state information; and
6 (ii) transmitting the retrieved at least one of changed configuration
7 information and state information to the first server process.

1 18. The method of claim 14, wherein the second agent process is launched at
2 the cluster and further comprising:
3 receiving at least one of changed configuration information and changed state
4 information for the cluster;
5 storing the at least one of changed configuration information and state information
6 as persistent data at the cluster; and
7 under control of the second agent process,
8 (i) retrieving the stored at least one of changed configuration information
9 and state information; and
10 (ii) transmitting the retrieved at least one of changed configuration
11 information and state information to the second server process.

1 19. The method of claim 13, wherein the first agent process is launched if a
2 first server is configured and wherein the second agent process is launched if a second
3 server is configured.

1 20. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
2 under control of the first agent process,
3 receiving a request to execute the task from the first server process;
4 storing identification for the first agent process in persistent data;

1 invoking a driver process for executing the task;
2 receiving task completion status from the driver process; and
3 forwarding the task completion status to the first server process.

1 21. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
2 under control of the second agent process,
3 receiving a request to execute the task from the second server process;
4 storing identification for the second agent process in persistent data;
5 invoking a driver process for executing the task;
6 receiving task completion status from the driver process; and
7 forwarding the task completion status to the second server process.

1 22. An article of manufacture for task processing and monitoring of
2 configuration and state information, wherein the article of manufacture is capable of
3 causing operations to be performed, the operations comprising:
4 detecting a first server and a second server;
5 registering a first agent process with a first server process at the first server;
6 registering a second agent process with a second server process at the second
7 server;
8 when a task is to be executed by the first server process, executing the task with
9 the first agent process; and
10 when the task is to be executed by the second server process, executing the task
11 with the second agent process.

1 23. The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the operations further
2 comprise:
3 storing configuration and state information for one or more storage devices
4 accessed by a cluster as persistent data at the cluster.

1 24. The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the first agent process is
2 launched at the cluster and wherein the operations further comprise:
3 under control of the first agent process,
4 (i) retrieving the stored configuration and state information; and
5 (ii) transmitting the retrieved configuration and state information to the
6 first server process.

1 25. The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the second agent process is
2 launched at the cluster and wherein the operations further comprise:
3 under control of the second agent process,
4 (i) retrieving the stored configuration and state information; and
5 (ii) transmitting the retrieved configuration and state information to the
6 second server process.

1 26. The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the first agent process is
2 launched at the cluster and wherein the operations further comprise:
3 receiving at least one of changed configuration information and changed state
4 information for the cluster;
5 storing the at least one of changed configuration information and state information
6 as persistent data at the cluster; and
7 under control of the first agent process,
8 (i) retrieving the stored at least one of changed configuration information
9 and state information; and
10 (ii) transmitting the retrieved at least one of changed configuration
11 information and state information to the first server process.

1 27. The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the second agent process is
2 launched at the cluster and wherein the operations further comprise:
3 receiving at least one of changed configuration information and changed state
4 information for the cluster;
5 storing the at least one of changed configuration information and state information
6 as persistent data at the cluster; and
7 under control of the second agent process,
8 (i) retrieving the stored at least one of changed configuration information
9 and state information; and
10 (ii) transmitting the retrieved at least one of changed configuration
11 information and state information to the second server process.

1 28. The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the first agent process is
2 launched if a first server is configured and wherein the second agent process is launched if
3 a second server is configured.

1 29. The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the operations further
2 comprise:
3 under control of the first agent process,
4 receiving a request to execute the task from the first server process;
5 storing identification for the first agent process in persistent data;
6 invoking a driver process for executing the task;
7 receiving task completion status from the driver process; and
8 forwarding the task completion status to the first server process.

- 1 30. The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the operations further
2 comprise:
3 under control of the second agent process,
4 receiving a request to execute the task from the second server process;
5 storing identification for the second agent process in persistent data;
6 invoking a driver process for executing the task;
7 receiving task completion status from the driver process; and
8 forwarding the task completion status to the second server process.